

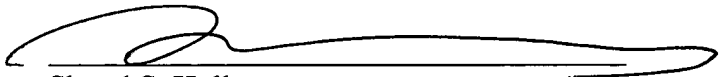
## REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight, for the courtesy of a telephone interview on October 13, 2004 in the absence of Examiner Booker. Applicant's counsel and Examiner Knight discussed the Examiner's amendment to claim 10 in which Examiner's Booker added the article "a" to each of the means elements. Examiner Knight agreed to enter a 37 C.F.R. §1.312 amendment to remove the "a" if submitted by Applicant. Accordingly, Applicant is herewith submitting the appropriate amendment under § 1.312 and respectfully requests entry of the above amendment. If the Examiner determines the prompt entry of these amendments could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-8300 x309.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR  
& ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: OCT. 14, 2004



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